

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

- On page 1, please insert the following paragraph after the title:

This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/US03/41357, filed December 23, 2003, which designated the United States and which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/436,506 filed December 23, 2002. The entire teachings of these referenced applications are incorporated herein by reference. International Application PCT/US03/41357 was published under PCT Article 21(2) in English.

- On page 9, please replace the paragraph on lines 6-8 with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 5A (SEQ ID NO: 7), 5B (SEQ ID NO: 8) and 5C (SEQ ID NO: 9) depict construction of the three consecutive estrogen response elements genetically linked to *URA3*, *nirA* promoter, which in turn is linked to a reporter protein.

- On page 36, please replace the paragraphs on lines 11-25 with the following amended paragraphs:

SEQ ID NO: 3  
Acc. No. M86900M68900  
*A. nidulans* *nirA* promoter

SEQ ID NO:4  
Acc. No. M86900M68900  
94 bp fragment of *A. nidulans* *nirA* promoter

SEQ ID NO:5  
Acc. No. M86900M68900  
287 bp fragment of *A. nidulans* *nirA* promoter

SEQ ID NO:6  
Acc. No. M86900M68900  
382 bp fragment of *A. nidulans* *nirA* promoter

- Please insert the Abstract, appearing on the next page, immediately after the last page of the claims.